

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H. 3635**

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TO:	Elizabeth Chamber, Legislative Council		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	R.J. Stein		
DATE:	March 23, 2009	SBD:	2009304

AUTHOR:	Representative Hodges	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	50-9-560
SUBJECT:	Saltwater Fishing Licenses		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

Minimal (Some additional costs expected but can be absorbed)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

House Bill 3635 amends Chapters 5 and 9, Title 50 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to recreational saltwater fishing. The Bill authorizes the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to also include individuals fishing from shore or land-based structures to obtain a saltwater recreational fishing license. The Bill clarifies certain exemptions from the licensing requirement. The Bill also moves the licensing and revenue distribution requirements to Chapter 9.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Department of Natural Resources reports that the additional cost of printing and distributing licenses is minimal (under \$2,000) and can be absorbed by the agency using currently available resources. There is no fiscal impact on Federal and/or Other funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

The Board of Economic Advisors is the appropriate entity to address any revenue impact associated with this Bill.

The Department reports that the federal government, in an effort to maintain a registry of all recreational saltwater fishing activity, will impose an additional federal recreational saltwater fishing permit fee on anyone fishing in the salt waters of any state that does not meet all the requirements of the National Saltwater Angler Registry Program.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget